

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00224 231913 Z

60

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

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R 231440 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3385

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 224

E. O. GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS PGOV SF WA US

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER' S VIEWS ON BANNINGS, SWA
DEVELOPMENTS

1. AF/ S DIRECTOR FOLEY, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM, CALLED SEPARATELY
ON DFA UNDER SECRETARY KINCAID, FOREIGN SECRETARY FOURIE AND
FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER MARCH 21. AMBASSADOR HURD ALSO ATTENDED
HOUR- LONG MULLER MEETING. TALKS WERE CORDIAL BUT CANDID.
FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS.

2. FOLEY NOTED AT OUTSET THAT RECENT FAVORABLE SAG DECISIONS
ON CERTAIN AMCIT VISA CASES HAD HELPED ASSUAGE WHAT WAS BECOMING
INCREASINGLY SERIOUS IRRITANT IN SAG- USG BILATERAL RELATIONS.
FOLEY ADDED THAT THERE WERE TWO OTHER AREAS IN WHICH RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS COULD IN FUTURE CAST CLOUD OVER RELATIONS.

3. ONE WAS RECENT BANNING OF NUSAS AND SASO LEADERS, AN ACTION
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00224 231913 Z

WHICH HAD TOUCHED OFF CONSIDERABLE NEGATIVE REACTION IN US CONGRESS, PRESS AND PUBLIC. MANY AMERICANS, WHETHER CONCERNED OR NOT WITH SOUTH AFRICAN PROBLEMS IN GENERAL, ARE OFFENDED BY BANNING ACTION AND BY COMPLETE LACK OF DUE PROCESS OF LAW INVOLVED. FONMIN MULLER SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS REACTION BUT LEADERS COULD NOT RPT NOT BE "UNBANNED" AND IN ANY CASE LEGAL ACTION THROUGH ATTORNEY GENERAL IN NEAR FUTURE AGAINST PERSONS BANNED WAS "PROBABLE". MULLER ADDED THAT BANNINGS WERE PREVENTIVE IN NATURE AND STRESSED THAT "IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD," SAG SIMPLY NOT PREPARED TO WAIT FOR "SUBVERSIVES" TO STRIKE BEFORE TAKING ACTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT PROBABLE FOREIGN OUTCRY AGAINST BANNINGS WAS CONSIDERED FULLY BEFORE DECISION WAS TAKEN BUT THAT SAG CONVINCED NEED FOR FIRM ACTION WAS OVERRIDING.

4. FOLEY ASLO REFERRED TO CONTINUING USG INTEREST IN SWA DEVELOPMENTS, OUR DESIRE TO SEE SYG INITIATIVE CONTINUE, AND UNFORTUNATE REPERCUSSIONS OF RECENTLY- INTRODUCED LEGISLATION RE SWA HOMELANDS.

WHEN FONSEC FOURIE CITED NEWLY- FORMED SWA ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAPE TOWN 202; A-17) AS EVIDENCE OF QTE PROGRESS UNQTE AND OF SAG QTE GOOD FAITH UNQTE IN ABIDING BY ESCHER- VORSTER AGREEMENT, DCM AND FOLEY DEMURRED, TELLING FOURIE FRANKLY THAT COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL STRUCK MANY OUTSIDE OBSERVERS (ESPECIALLY AFS AT UN) AS QTE STACKED DECK UNQTE, MEMBERS OF WHICH APPEARED HAND PICKED BY SAG FOR THEIR MALLEABLE QUALITIES AND SUPPORT SAG HOMELANDS POLICY. FOURIE (AND LATER FONMIN MULLER) VIGOROUSLY DENIED THIS AND INSISTED SAG HAD ONLY ASKED EACH TRIBAL AUTHORITY, HOWEVER CONSTITUTED, TO DESIGNATE ITS OWN REPS. MULLER SEEMED PARTICULARLY DISTRESSED AT JAUNDICED VIEW OF ADVISORY COUNCIL AND ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS ON SPOT TO SUBORDINATE TO ARRANGE GIVE EMBASSY COMPLETE DETAILS ON HOW MEMBERS WERE ACTUALLY CHOSEN. WHILE WELCOMING THIS, FOLEY REMINDED MULLER THAT MAJOR SAG PROBLEM THIS CONNECTION WAS NOT USG ATTITUDE, BUT THAT OF AFS, WHO WOULD BE EVEN HARDER TO CONVINCE THAT COUNCIL WAS TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF PEOPLES OF SWA.

5. BOTH FOURIE AND MULLER EMPHASIZED THAT CHACKO'S DEATH HAD BEEN SEVERE BLOW TO SAG'S HOPES FOR EVENTUAL SUCCESS IN DIALOGUE WITH UN OVER SWA. THEY HAD HIGH REGARD FOR CHACKO BUT ARE LESS ENTHUSIASTIC RE STRAVROPOULOS, WHOM THEY REGARD AS EXCELLENT LEGAL MAN BUT LACKING IN POLITICAL FEEL AND
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PAGE 03 CAPE T 00224 231913 Z

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE OF SWA SITUATION WHICH CHACKO ENJOYED IN

FULL MEASURE. MULLER THEREFORE WAS QTE NOT OPTIMISTIC UNQTE
RE FUTURE PROGRESS AND CAUTIONED SPECIFICALLY AGAINST TOO
MUCH HOPE FOR EARLY SUCCESS OF ADVISORY COUNCIL, FIRST MEETING
OF WHICH PRIME MINISTER WILL OPEN TODAY, MARCH 23, IN WINDHOEK.

6. BOTH FOURIE AND MULLER TRACED HISTORY OF SAG- UN CONTACTS,
INCLUDING FOURIE' S PLANS TO MEET WITH CHACKO IN RIO AND AGAIN
LATER IN NEW YORK, WHICH ABORTED BY CHACKO' S DEATH. THEY ARE
CONCERNED THAT " TIME IS RUNNING OUT" AND ARE FRUSTRATED BY
UNSYG' S FREQUENT ABSENCES FROM NEW YORK, DURING WHICH NO
PROGRESS CAN BE MADE. THEY REITERATED SAG READINESS TO MEET
AGAIN -- FOURIE WITH STRAVROPOULOS -- OR EVEN MULLER WITH
WALDHEIM IN GENEVA OR NEW YORK IF NECESSARY, IF SUCH A MEETING
HAD ANY HOPE OF MAKING PROGRESS.

7. COMMENT: VIEWED FROM HERE, MULLER' S PESSIMISM RE FUTURE OF
UN- SAG DIALOGUE ON SWA APPEARS WELL PLACED . BELIEVE CHACKO' S
DEATH CAME AS REAL BLOW TO SAG, AND IT SERIOUSLY CONCERNED
WHETHER THREADS CAN BE PICKED UP SOON ENOUGH FOR SAG TO SHOW
PROGRESS OF A KIND WHICH COULD POSSIBLY SATISFY OUTSIDE WORLD
PRIOR TO FORTHCOMING OAU MEETING.

HURD

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